

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 3 and end on page 11, line 12 with the following paragraph:

Ins. 037
Q² Unlike conventional prior art writing elements, such as 134 of FIG. 2, writing elements 180 and 182 do not include magnetic return pole elements that form a return path along which magnetic signals can be conducted to back gap region 194. It has been determined using computer modeling (Micromagnetic and Finite-Element-Method modeling) that a return path is not required to satisfy Ampere's Law. However, the elimination of the return path reduces the amount of soft magnetic material that can concentrate the magnetic signals generated by conducting coil 186 and conduct them through writing pole 184. As a result, the efficiency of writing elements 180 and 182 will be reduced.